



INTERNEWS 1.0.5

# InterNews™ 1.0.5



Computing Services  
Dartmouth College, Hanover, New Hampshire  
— November 1994 —

AcknowledgmentsProgramming: Roger Brown  
Steve Maker

Network Code: James Matthews

Documentation: Nancy Hossfeld  
Marie Stebbins

Written with MacApp® 1985–1990 Apple Computer, Inc. Parts also written with Think Pascal, © 1991 Symantic Corporation.

Send questions, comments, and problem reports to **internews@dartmouth.edu**.

The latest version of *InterNews* is available via FTP in the directory /pub/mac of the host ftp.dartmouth.edu.

Copyright © 1993, 1994 by the Trustees of Dartmouth College. All rights reserved.

InterNews is a trademark and BlitzMail is a registered trademark of the Trustees of Dartmouth College

MacTCP and ResEdit are trademarks, and MacApp and Macintosh are registered trademarks of Apple Computer, Inc.

Microsoft is a registered trademark of Microsoft Corporation.

StuffIt! is a trademark of Aladdin Systems, Inc. and Raymond Lau.

Trademarked names are used throughout this publication. The absence of their corresponding marks and notices in no way reflects an intention to infringe upon

the proprietary nature of those trademarks.

## Table of Contents

Conventions.....	iii
Introduction.....	1
The Usenet News.....	1
Newsgroup Organization.....	1
Posting to Newsgroups.....	2
Bulletin Boards and Conferencing.....	2
Getting Started.....	3
What You Need to Use InterNews.....	3
Using InterNews for the First Time.....	3
About Subscriptions.....	6
Menus and Windows.....	7
The File Menu.....	7
The Edit Menu.....	8
The Subscriptions Menu.....	9
The Reading Menu.....	10
The Compose Menu.....	12
The Windows Menu.....	13
The Subscription Window.....	14
Reading Windows.....	15
The Authentication Dialog Window.....	17
AppleEvents.....	18
How to...19	
...Read Newsgroups, Topics, and Articles without the Mouse	19
...Find an Article that You have Already Read.....	20
...Post an Article or Mail a Message.....	20
...Import Your UNIX .newsrsrc File.....	20
...Browse in Random Newsgroups.....	21
...Make a Selection Containing Interesting Newsgroups...	21
...Remove Newsgroups from a Subscription.....	22
...Cancel a Long-running Operation.....	22
...Save an Article as Text.....	23
...Download Binary Files from Articles.....	23
...Change the Creator Type of Saved Articles.....	23
...Report Bugs or Make Suggestions about Future Versions of InterNews.....	23

Posting Articles.....	24
Netiquette.....	24
Where Does an Article Go?.....	24
Take a Test Drive First.....	24
Moderated Newsgroups.....	25
Canceling Articles.....	25
Timing of Articles.....	25
What If My Article Never Appears?.....	25

How to Post an Original Article.....	26
How to Follow Up an Article.....	27
How to Cancel an Article.....	28
Personalizing Your Article.....	29
Quoted Text.....	29
Signature.....	30
Optional Headers.....	31
Saving Compositions.....	33
Mailing Messages.....	34
How to Mail a Message.....	34
Helpful Hints.....	36
Starting the Program.....	36
Keyboard Shortcuts.....	36
Newsgroup Selection Shortcuts.....	36
Topic Selection Shortcuts.....	37
Article Scrolling Shortcuts.....	37
“Out of Memory” Problems.....	37
Windows.....	38
Reading.....	38
Posting.....	40
New Newsgroups.....	41
Aligning Subscription Icons.....	41
Undoable Operations.....	41
Network Monitor Window.....	42
Automatic Subscriptions.....	42
Anonymous FTP.....	44
Configuring InterNews for Your Site.....	46
..About Authentication.....	47
..Locking the Configuration.....	49
..Distributing the Program.....	50
What InterNews Cannot Do.....	51

## Conventions

The following conventions are used throughout this document:

**command** In text, commands are shown in this bold type.

**Return** In text, keys are indicated in this bold type. Combination keystrokes (that is, keys that you press simultaneously) are shown as **⌘-X**; you do not type the hyphen between these keystrokes.

*InterNews* In text, program titles and documents are shown in this italic type.

example In examples, system output is printed in this type.

**example** In examples, user input is printed in this bold type.

## **Introduction**

### **The Usenet News**

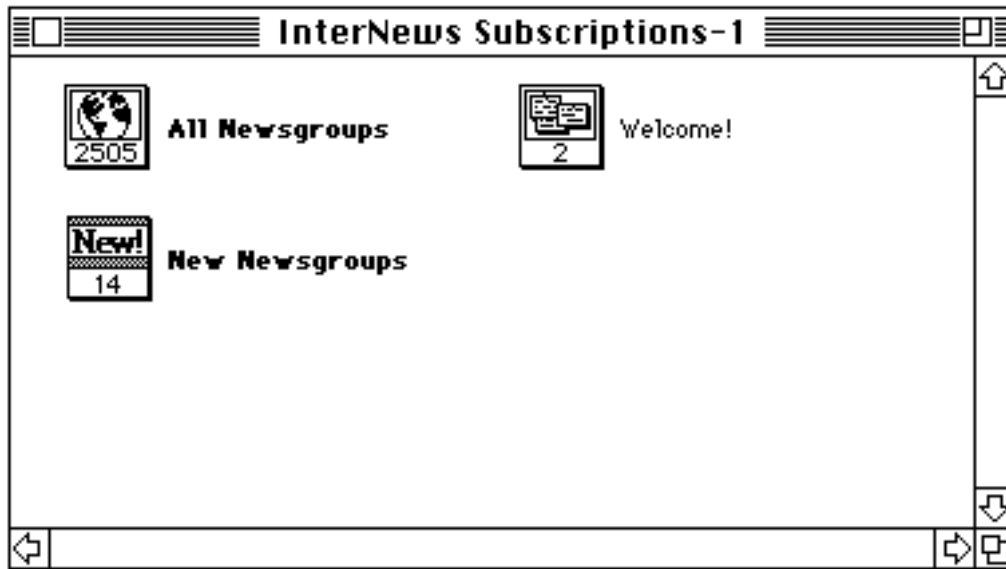
*InterNews* is a Macintosh program for sharing information among many people. It uses a service called the “Usenet News,” which has been available to users of larger computers for many years. The Usenet News manages text articles written by people at educational, commercial, and government institutions all around the world. These articles are organized into “newsgroups” that focus discussions into specific topics across the whole spectrum of human experience: serious technical discussions, political opinion, items for sale, financial advice, personals, humor, and more. Currently, thousands of newsgroups exist, with contributors from all over the world.

### **Newsgroup Organization**

Newsgroups are organized into a hierarchy. At the top level are topic areas such as comp (computers), rec (recreation), sci (science), biz (business), and alt (alternative, or “anything goes”). Within each of these topic areas are numerous subtopics, most with further subtopics of their own. Some groups may be local to your site. The names of these groups will start with the name of your institution.

No enforced rules govern the creation of newsgroups, although some conventions guide the process. Newsgroups are usually created by interested persons using an established discussion and balloting process for groups that have a widespread and somewhat “official” purpose. Other groups, recognizable by the term ‘alt’ in their names, are created by individuals for more “casual” use. Most newsgroups are open to all participants for reading and posting (contributing articles). Other groups are moderated, meaning that all postings go to a single person who is the moderator, and that person determines which articles will be shown to all readers.

*InterNews* uses collections of newsgroups called “subscriptions.” Three subscriptions are created for you automatically: “All Newsgroups” so you can browse through all existing groups, “Welcome” with a couple of helpful groups for new users, and “New Newsgroups” to show you what groups have been created lately. From these you can create your own subscriptions to hold the groups in which you are most interested.



Each newsgroup is presented for viewing with a further organization into “topics.” A topic is a list of “articles” sent by participants regarding a particular discussion subject. Topics are similar to the “threads” maintained by some other Usenet newsreaders. They organize articles by subject line rather than by reference line. As you read the articles in a topic, *InterNews* remembers which you have read so that you do not have to see them again unless you want to. This information is kept in a “subscription file” on your Macintosh disk. You can skip whole articles, even whole newsgroups, by marking them as having been read.

### **Posting to Newsgroups**

You can contribute to a discussion by posting your own article, much the same way that you might compose an electronic mail message. In addition, you can respond directly to people by mailing a message from *InterNews*. This is useful in cases where you want to make contact with the poster of an article, but do not want to share your response with everyone else.

### **Bulletin Boards and Conferencing**

You can use *InterNews* as a simple bulletin board and conferencing system at your site. Using UNIX news software, you can create local newsgroups for bulletin board topics (for sale, announcements, etc.) and discussion topics (department groups and subgroups). You can create these alongside of the global Usenet newsgroup system, or create a private local system by setting up an NNTP host without an outside news feed.



## What You Need to Use InterNews

*InterNews* requires a Macintosh® computer with MacTCP™. It will work under Macintosh System versions 6.0 and later. The Macintosh must be on a network that has a “news host” machine available. A news host is typically a computer that runs UNIX and gets a Usenet news feed from the Internet. *InterNews* communicates with a service called NNTP (Network News Transport Protocol) on the news host. *InterNews* presumes that the news host is known on the network by just that name, “news host.” If not, you can configure the program to talk to any computer running NNTP by entering its name or IP address in the “Configure for your Site” dialog or the “Set Host Addresses” dialog invoked from the **Edit** menu.

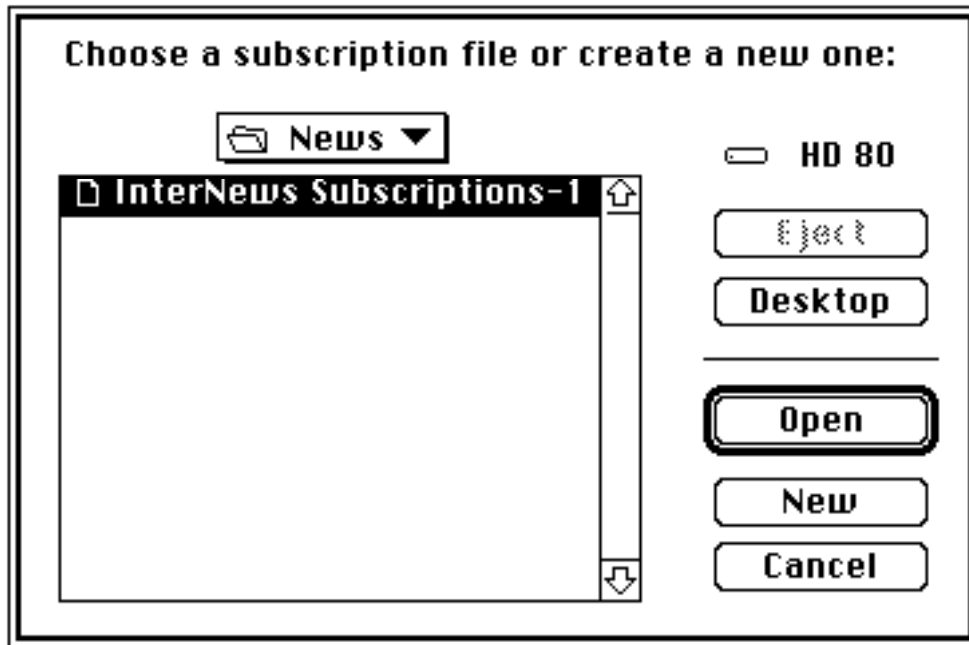
If you know that your site has more than 6,000 newsgroups, you should increase the memory allocation of *InterNews* to at least 1000KB.

## Using InterNews for the First Time



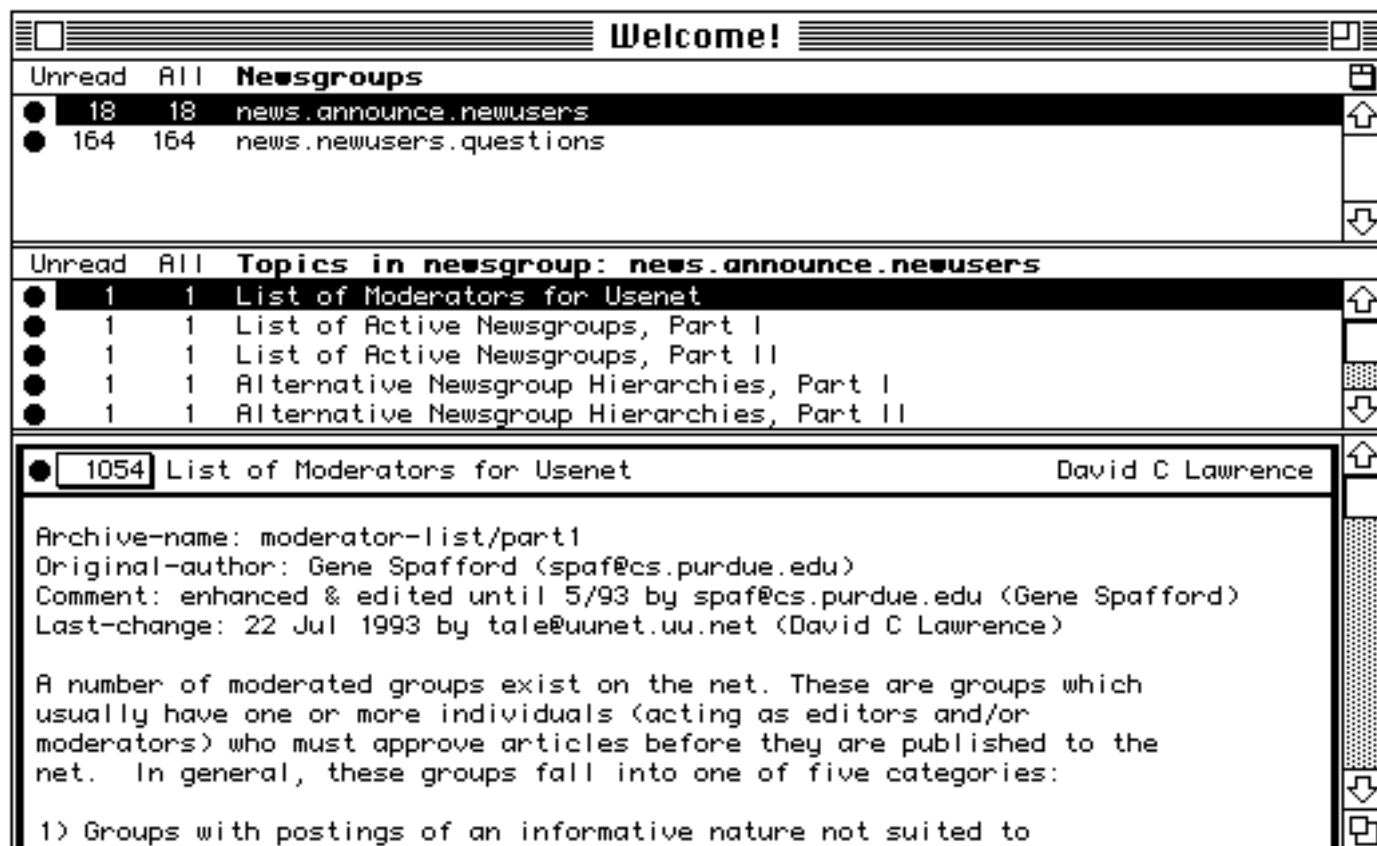
1. Double-click on the *InterNews* icon.
2. If you are greeted with a dialog box entitled “Configure for Your Site,” refer to the section near the end of this document entitled “Configuring InterNews for Your Site” for instructions. If you still do not know what to do, simply press the **Set** button to continue.

3. The following dialog will appear asking you to choose a subscription file or to make a new one. Click on the **New** button.



4. After a minute or two of talking to the “news host” computer, *InterNews* will create a new subscription file with the predefined subscriptions in it. These will appear as icons in a window named “InterNews Subscriptions-1.” This procedure is somewhat time consuming because *InterNews* is getting the list of newsgroups from the news host. This only has to be done once for a subscription file, though, so the program will be much quicker to start up after the first time.

5. Double-click on the **Welcome** subscription. A new window will appear with a short list of newsgroups in the top section, or “pane,” of the window.



6. Select the first newsgroup by clicking on it twice, then select a topic in the middle pane the same way. The articles in that topic will appear in the bottom pane. This will give you both a flavor of the program and some information about how to use the Usenet News.

## About Subscriptions

A subscription is a collection of newsgroups, possibly with special properties. Some subscriptions are provided for you, and you can make any number of your own.

The All Newsgroups subscription contains all the newsgroups received at your site; you can copy newsgroups from it, although you can't add to or delete from it. This is where you find newsgroups of interest (the **Find** command helps); once you've found them, you can read them there or drag them into a subscription of your own making.

The New Newsgroups subscription contains newly created newsgroups. *InterNews* checks for new newsgroups once each day (or less often if you specify differently in the Preferences dialog). You can delete the New Newsgroups subscription, and a new one will be created automatically the next time there are new newsgroups. You can inspect the new groups immediately, or wait for a time of your own choosing. You can copy newsgroups from this subscription and delete those you've inspected (*InterNews* will not delete any for you), but you can't otherwise modify this subscription. All newsgroups listed in this subscription are also listed in the All Newsgroups subscription.

You are encouraged to construct your own subscriptions using the **New Subscription** command from the **Subscriptions** menu. Give them whatever name you want. You can drag any number of newsgroups into them, where they will appear each time you run the program. You can also add groups using the **Add Newsgroup** command from the **Reading** menu. You can sort the newsgroups in a subscription by dragging their names into any order you want. You can also delete newsgroups and copy newsgroups to other subscriptions. Setting up your own subscriptions will allow you to read the news more quickly.

## The File Menu



In addition to the traditional **Page Setup** and **Quit** menu options, the *InterNews* **File** menu offers:

- **New Subscription File** will create a new subscription file.
- **Open Subscription File...** will open an existing subscription file.
- **Close Subscription File** will close the current subscription file.
- **Close Window** will close the front-most window.
- **Save Subscription File** will save your current subscription file.
- **Save Subscription File As...** will save your current subscription information in a new file.
- **Save Composition** will save the contents of a composition window in a file.

- **Save Article As Text...** will save the entire article in a text file, even if it was too long to display.
- **Append Article to Text File...** will append the entire article to the specified text file, even if it was too long to display.
- **Print...** will print the selected article or composition, or the current help topic. If text is selected in the frontmost window, the name of this item will be **Print Selected Text...** and only the current selection will be printed.
- **Sign On** will authenticate you for posting by asking for your name and password. **Sign Off** will sign you off. You can always read articles whether you are signed on or not.
- **Disconnect from Server** will disconnect you from the news server; **Connect to Server** will make the connection again.

#### The Edit Menu

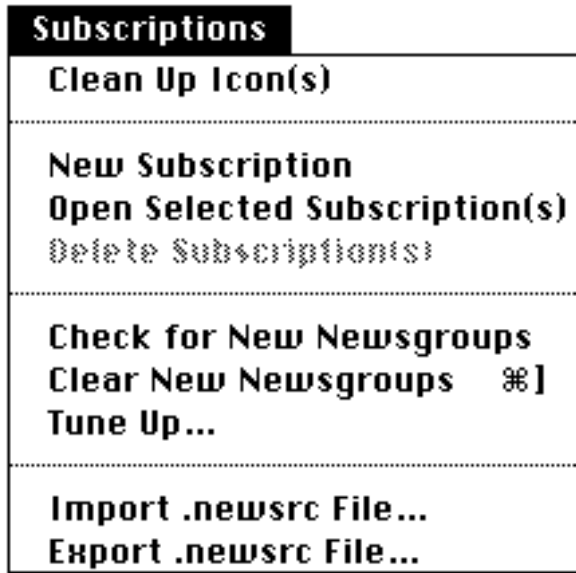
Edit	
Undo	⌘Z
Cut	⌘H
Copy	⌘C
Paste	⌘V
Clear	
Select All	⌘A
Show Clipboard	
Preferences...	
Set Host Addresses...	
Configure for Your Site...	

In addition to the traditional Macintosh **Edit** menu items (**Undo**, **Cut**, **Copy**, **Paste**, **Clear**, and **Select All**), the *InterNews* **Edit** menu offers:

- **Show Clipboard** will display the current contents of the clipboard.
- **Preferences...** presents a dialog that lets you set many different preferences so that you can customize the behavior of *InterNews*.

- **Set Host Addresses...** presents a dialog that lets you designate the news, mail, and authentication host addresses for your network.
- **Configure for Your Site...** presents a dialog that lets you configure default values for *InterNews* before you distribute it to others at your site. (Most people never have to use this command.)

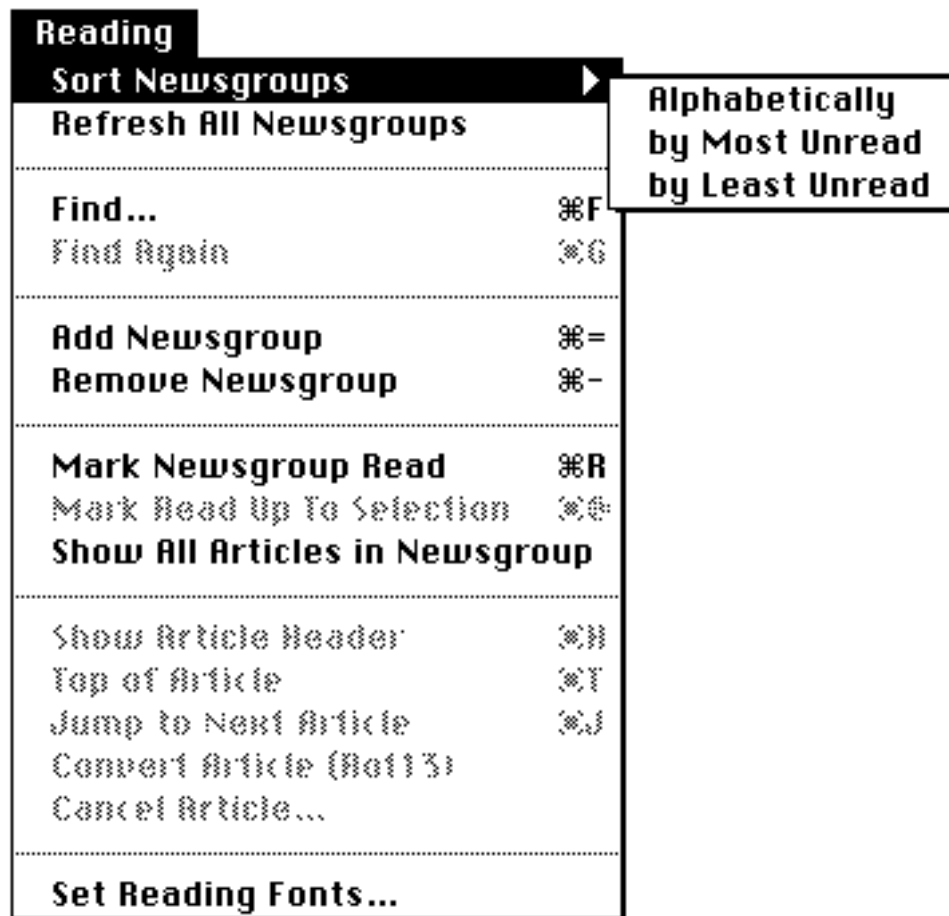
### The Subscriptions Menu



- **Clean Up Icon(s)** will align the selected icons to a fixed, invisible grid. You can also clean up icons by dragging them while holding down the **Option** key.
- **New Subscription** will create a new subscription in the Subscriptions window.
- **Open Selected Subscription(s)** will open the selected icons in the Subscriptions window by creating a Reading window for each.
- **Delete Subscription(s)** will delete the selected subscription icons in the Subscriptions window. It is undoable.
- **Check for New Newsgroups** will ask the news host for any new newsgroups that may have been created since the last time you checked.
- **Clear New Newsgroups** removes all newsgroups from the New Newsgroup subscription. The subscription will not be deleted.

- **Tune Up...** brings your subscription file up to date in several ways: It checks for any new newsgroups that may have been missed, it removes newsgroups that are no longer in use, and it compacts the file by eliminating information about articles that have expired.
- **Import .newsrsrc file...** will convert a UNIX .newsrsrc file into a subscription, remembering what you had read. You can move the file from UNIX to your Macintosh using Dartmouth's *Fetch* software or other FTP client programs.
- **Export .newsrsrc file...** will convert all your subscriptions into one UNIX .newsrsrc file (which includes information about what you have read); the file can then be moved to UNIX using *Fetch* or other FTP client programs.

#### The Reading Menu



- Sort Newsgroups offers a hierarchical menu from which you can choose to:



**Sort Newsgroups Alphabetically**, which will alphabetically sort the list of newsgroups in a subscription you have made.

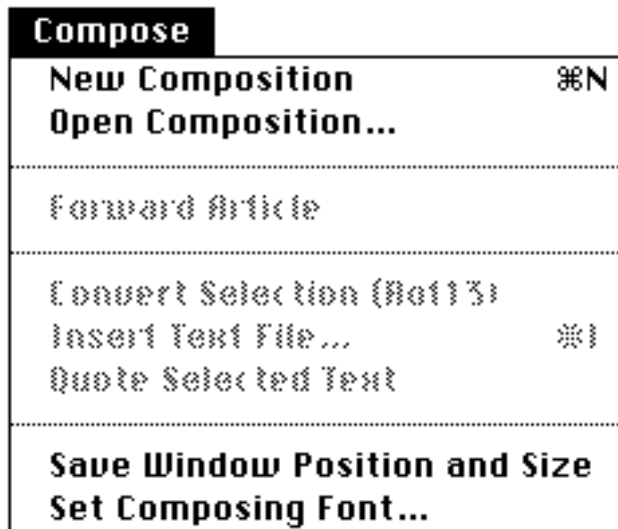
**Sort Newsgroups by Most Unread** will sort the list of newsgroups in a subscription according to the number of unread articles in each. The newsgroup with the most unread articles will appear first.

**Sort Newsgroups by Least Unread** will sort the list of newsgroups in a subscription according to the number of unread articles in each. The newsgroup with the least unread articles will appear first.

- **Refresh All Newsgroups** will update any shown newsgroups which have had new articles added since the connection to the news server was made.
- **Find...** selects the next newsgroup or topic whose name contains a given string.
- **Find Again** does another Find, using the previous string.
- **Add Newsgroup** will present a list of all the newsgroups so that you can add one or more to the subscription.
- **Remove Newsgroup** will delete the selected newsgroup.
- **Mark Newsgroup Read** marks every article in the newsgroup as read; it's undoable. If you canceled while getting a newsgroup, only the articles shown will be marked.
- **Mark Read Up To Selection** marks every article up to the selected topic as read; it's undoable. If you canceled while getting a newsgroup, only the articles shown will be marked.
- **Show All Articles in Newsgroup** (when just unread ones are shown) will get and display all articles.
- **Show Just Unread Articles in Newsgroup** (when all are shown) will get and display just the unread ones.
- **Show/Hide Article Header** will add/remove the header to/from the text of the article.
- **Top of Article** will scroll to the top of the first visible article.
- **Jump to Next Article** will scroll to the next article that is completely out of sight.
- **Convert Article (Rot13)** will decode and re-encode articles (usually jokes) that have been rot13-encoded (they look like gibberish).

- **Cancel Article...** will let you cancel the selected article if you were the one who posted it.
- **Set Reading Fonts...** will let you set the font of each pane in all Reading windows.

## The Compose Menu



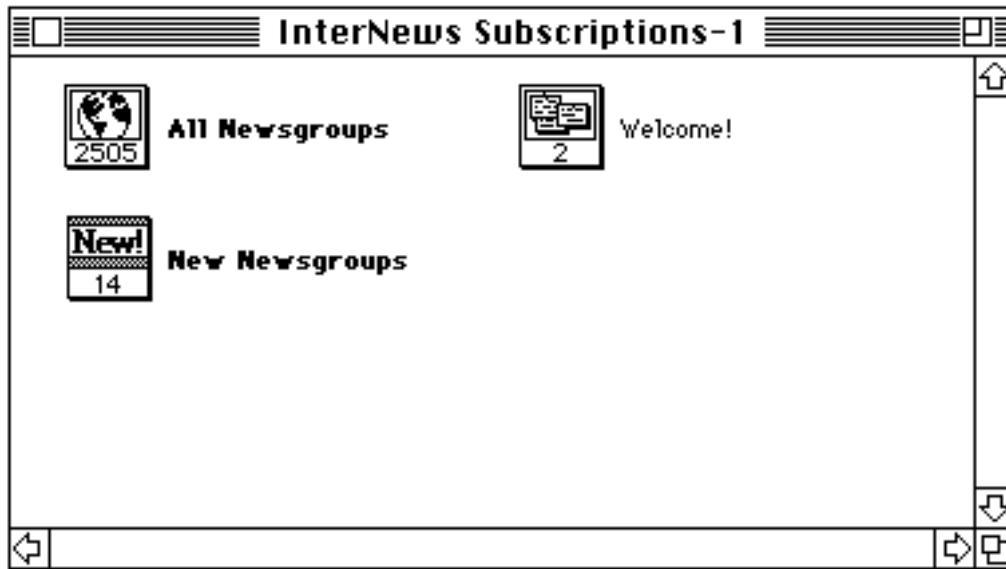
- **New Composition** will open a blank window for composing an article or a mail message.
- **Open Composition...** will open a saved composition.
- **Forward Article** will open a Compose window with the entire text of the article you were just reading so that you can forward it to another person via electronic mail.
- **Convert Selection (Rot13)** will encode or decode the currently selected text using the 'Rotate 13' method.
- **Insert Text File...** will insert the contents of a text file into a composition.
- **Quote Selected Text** will reformat the text currently selected in a Compose window to indicate that you are quoting the text of another article.
- **Save Window Position and Size** will store the current position and size of the Compose window. *InterNews* will initialize all other Compose windows to that position and size.
- **Set Composing Font...** will let you set the font of the bottom pane of all Composing windows.

Windows	
Help	⌘ /
Net Monitor	⌘ Y
FTP Access	⌘ U
<hr/>	
Send To Back	⌘ B
<hr/>	
♦ InterNews Subscriptions-3	
<hr/>	
Welcome!	
New Newsgroups	
All Newsgroups	

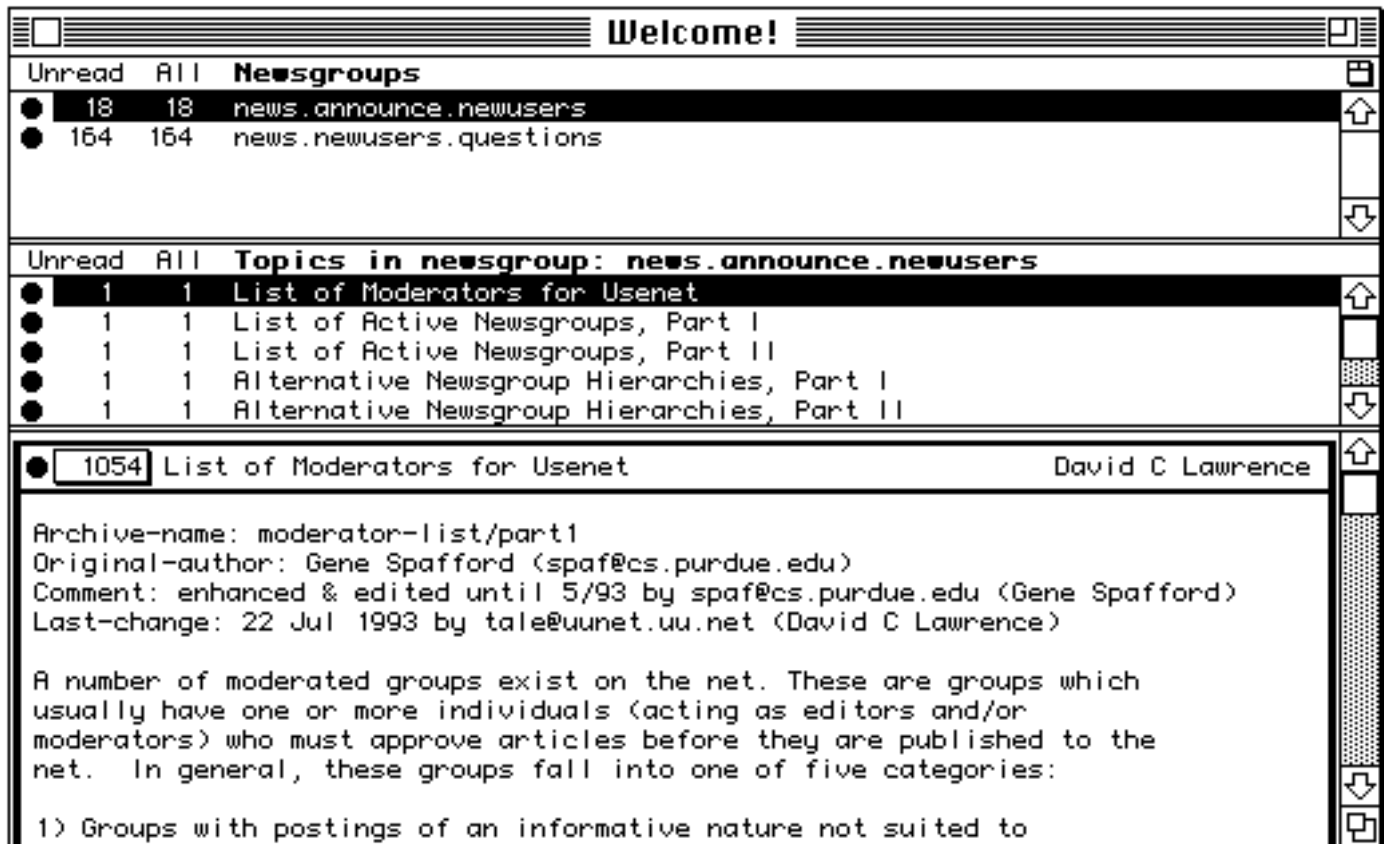
- **Help** will open a window with a collection of Help topics, most of which are also presented in this document.
- **Network Monitor** will open a debugging window that shows all communications with the host servers. Use this to help troubleshoot network problems. All communications will be slower when this window is open.
- **FTP Access** will open a window that lets you communicate with another program to get a remote file using the UNIX File Transfer Protocol. Refer to the “Anonymous FTP” section of this manual for instructions on using it.
- **Send To Back** will send the front-most window to the back.
- The name of your subscription file appears next. Choosing this item will bring that subscription window to the front, opening it if it has been closed.
- The names of your subscriptions appear next, one item for each. Choosing one of these will open that subscription and bring its Reading window to the front.
- The names of any open Compose windows appear next, one item for each. Choosing one of these will bring the associated window to the front.
- Open windows are marked with a diamond.

## The Subscription Window

The Subscription window shows the existing subscriptions as icons. Subscription icons can be manipulated as in the Macintosh Finder, and can be created, opened, and deleted using the **Subscriptions** menu.



## Reading Windows



A Reading window shows the contents of a subscription:

- It can be re-sized or zoomed; the articles in the bottom pane will adjust their size. The text will wrap so no horizontal scrolling is needed.
- The double horizontal lines are split bars, which determine the sizes of the panes; drag them up and down to change sizes.

The top pane of a Reading window shows all the newsgroups in the subscription:

- An unread bullet (black means some articles are unread), the number of unread articles, and the total number of articles in the newsgroup are shown in a user subscription. The numbers are estimates. In the special subscriptions that *InterNews* creates for you automatically, these numbers are displayed only while a newsgroup is being shown.
- Click the bullet at the left to mark that newsgroup as read (it goes white) or unread (it goes black); this is undoable.

- Click a newsgroup to select it; **right-arrow** will select the next one, **left-arrow** will select the previous one.
- Double-click a newsgroup to show all the topics in that newsgroup in the middle pane; the **Return** or **Enter** key will show the selected newsgroup. You can hold the **Option** key down to show just 50 articles at a time.
- Drag a newsgroup to change its position in the top pane list or to move it to another subscription. Hold down the **Option** key to drag a copy to another subscription.

The middle pane of a Reading window (if not blank) shows all the topics in the selected newsgroup:

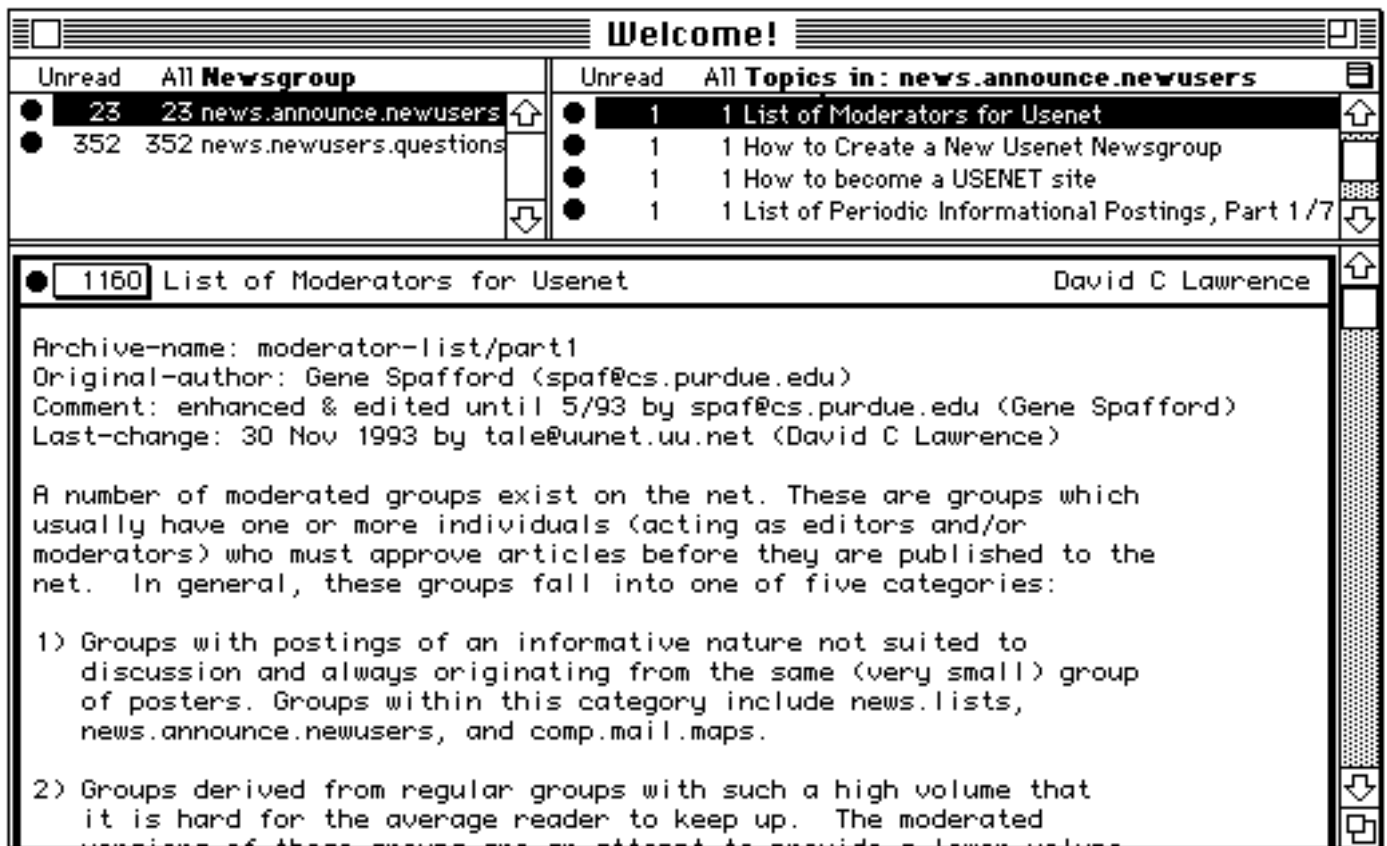
- An unread bullet (black means some articles are unread), the number of unread articles, and the total number of articles in the topic are shown.
- Click the bullet at the left to mark that topic as read (it goes white) or unread (it goes black); this is undoable.
- Click a topic to select it; **down-arrow** will select the next one, **up-arrow** will select the previous one. Hold down the **Option** key to mark the previously selected topic as read.
- Double-click a topic to show all the articles in that topic in the pane below; the **Return** or **Enter** keys will show the selected topic.
- **Command-Space** (⌘-space) will show the next topic in the pane below. Hold down the **Option** key to mark the previously selected topic as read.
- A topic is marked as read when you click its bullet or when all its articles have been read.

The bottom pane of a Reading window (if not blank) shows all the articles in the selected topic, in date and time order:

- The article number, the subject of the article, and the sender appear in a header line.
- Click and hold on the article number to pop up the full article header.
- Click the bullet at the left to mark that article as read (it goes white) or unread (it goes black); this is undoable.
- Click on an article to select it for printing or saving. It will be framed with a black rectangle. If there is only one article in a topic, it is selected for you automatically.

- Both the **Page Down** key and the **Space bar** will scroll a page down; the **Page Up** key will scroll a page up. The **Home** and **End** keys will scroll to the beginning and end of the topic, respectively.
- An article is marked as read when you click its bullet or when all of it has been shown (use the Reading category of the Preferences dialog for alternative ways to determine when an article has been read); this is undoable.

You can choose an alternate layout for any Reading window by clicking on the small “layout” icon at the top left of the window. The alternate layout places the newsgroup and topic panes side-by-side allowing more room for the article pane. Clicking on the icon will toggle the window between the two layouts. Fonts can be set separately for each layout. Layouts can be set separately for each subscription.

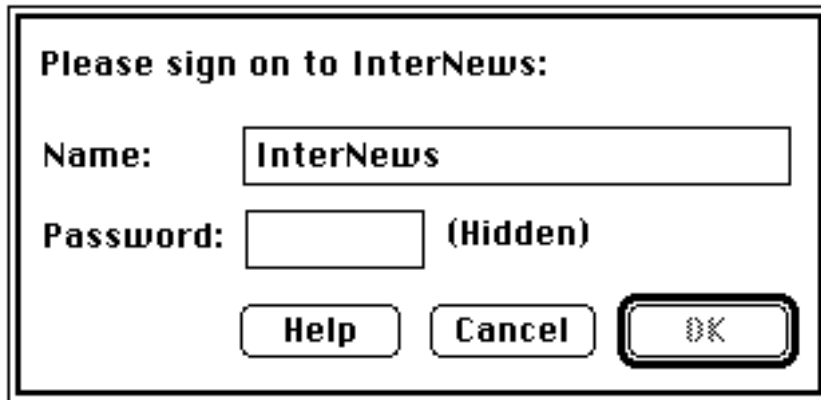


### The Authentication Dialog Window

When you post an article, mail a message, or cancel an article from *InterNews*, you may see the Authentication dialog. This dialog asks for your user name and password to be checked

by the configured authentication host. These should be the same user name and password that you use for electronic mail.

*InterNews* will only present this dialog once per session if you are authenticated. You can set a preference to have *InterNews* remember your user name and password in your subscription file. If you do, be careful not to share that file with anyone else. They will be able to send articles and mail using your name. The purpose of authentication is to ensure as much as possible that the author of every message sent from *InterNews* holds a valid electronic mail account at your site so that responses will be directed back to the correct person.

A screenshot of a Mac OS-style dialog box titled "Please sign on to InterNews:". It contains two input fields: "Name:" with the text "InterNews" entered, and "Password:" which is empty and followed by the text "(Hidden)". At the bottom, there are three buttons: "Help", "Cancel", and "OK". The "OK" button is highlighted with a double border.

**Please sign on to InterNews:**

**Name:**

**Password:**  (Hidden)

**Note:** The authentication dialog used at your site may be slightly different from the one shown above.

### AppleEvents

*InterNews* supports the four basic required AppleEvents:

- You can open *InterNews* from another application that can send AppleEvents.
- You can quit *InterNews* from another application that can send AppleEvents.
- You can open subscription files and composition files from the Finder or from other applications that can send AppleEvents. When you open a composition file this way, *InterNews* will ask you for a subscription file before showing you the Composition window.
- You can print composition files from the Finder or other applications. Subscription files cannot be printed.



How to...

### ...Read Newsgroups, Topics, and Articles without the Mouse

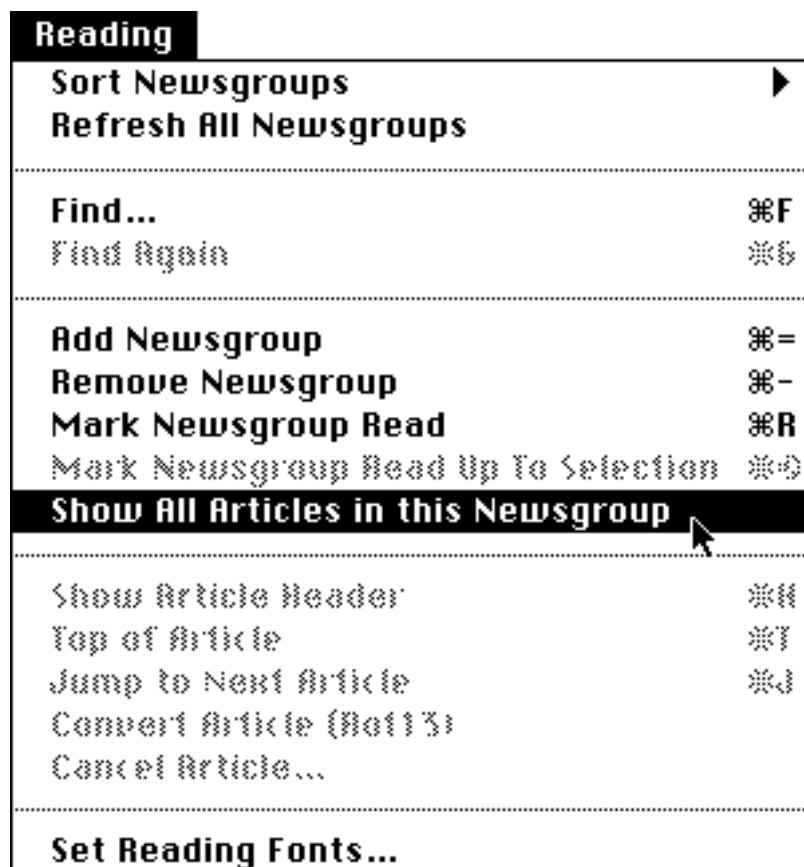
Open a subscription. Use right-arrow to select a newsgroup, and press **Enter** to show its topics. Use down-arrow to select a topic, and press **Enter** to show its articles. Scroll through the articles with the **Page Down** key or the **Space bar** (each article will be marked as read when it's been fully shown). When done with a topic, you can use **Command-Space** to immediately show the next topic. When you select a different topic or newsgroup, the previous one will be hidden, so the window will remain consistent.

When using the up- or down-arrow, or the **Command-Space** key combination, hold down the **Option** key to mark the previously selected topic as read. Use the **Mark Newsgroup Read** command to mark an entire newsgroup.

Reading	
Sort Newsgroups	▶
Refresh All Newsgroups	
Find...	⌘F
Find Again	⌘G
Add Newsgroup	⌘=
Remove Newsgroup	⌘-
Mark Newsgroup Read	⌘R
Mark Newsgroup Read Up To Selection	⌘⇧D
Show All Articles in this Newsgroup	
Show Article Header	⌘H
Top of Article	⌘T
Jump to Next Article	⌘J
Convert Article (Rot13)	
Cancel Article...	
Set Reading Fonts...	

### ...Find an Article that You have Already Read

You may not be able find a previously read article because articles “expire” after some amount of time determined by your news administrator (two weeks is a likely time period). If the article that you want has not expired, you may be able to find it by choosing the **Show All Articles in this Newsgroup** item from the **Reading** menu. This command will show all of the articles currently in the newsgroup, not just those that you have not yet read. You can even mark some of them as unread at this time to make them stay visible until they expire.



### ...Post an Article or Mail a Message

See the sections entitled “Posting Articles” and “Mailing Messages.”

### ...Import Your UNIX .newsrsrc File

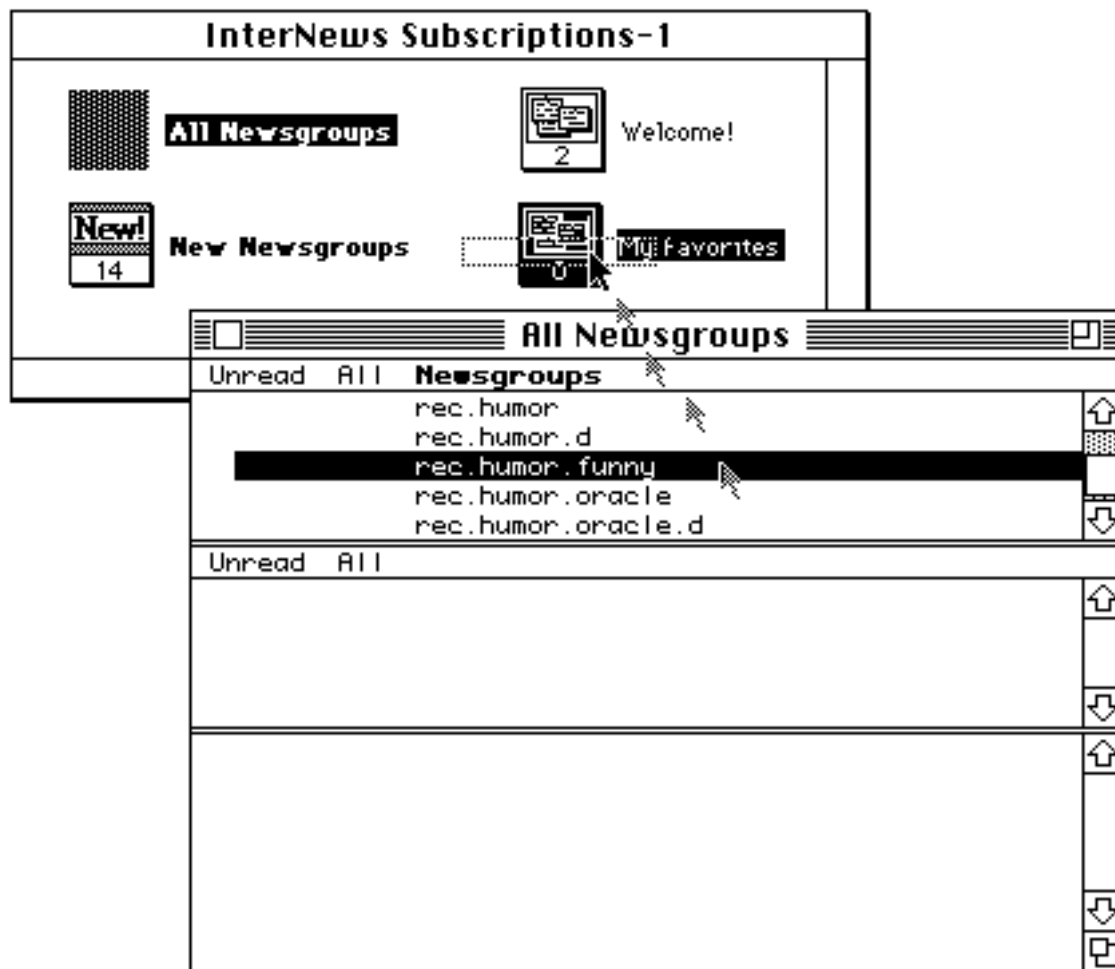
Use a Macintosh program such as Dartmouth's *Fetch* to move the .newsrsrc file from UNIX to your Macintosh. Then start *InterNews* and use the **Import .newsrsrc File...** command to make it into a subscription.

### ...Browse in Random Newsgroups

Open (by double-clicking) the All Newsgroups subscription, then use the **Find...** item or scroll to find the newsgroups which you're interested in. Read them as described previously.

### ...Make a Subscription Containing Interesting Newsgroups

Choose **New Subscription** from the **Subscriptions** menu. Click on the name of the resulting icon and rename it to whatever you would like. Open the All Newsgroups subscription. Drag interesting newsgroups to the newly created subscription—either to the icon or to the newsgroups (top) pane in the open window. You can also use the **Add Newsgroup** command from the **Reading** menu if your Reading window is open.



#### ...Remove Newsgroups from a Subscription

Either select the newsgroup and choose **Remove Newsgroup** from the **Reading** menu, or drag the newsgroup back into the All Newsgroups subscription icon or Reading window. You can also remove newsgroups using the dialog that appears when you choose the **Add Newsgroup** command from the **Reading** menu.

**Reading**

**Sort Newsgroups**  
**Refresh All Newsgroups**



**Find...** ⌘F  
**Find Again** ⌘G

**Add Newsgroup** ⌘=

**Remove Newsgroup** ⌘-

**Mark Newsgroup Read** ⌘R

Mark Newsgroup Read Up To Selection ⌘@

Show All Articles in this Newsgroup

Show Article Header ⌘H

Top of Article ⌘T

Jump to Next Article ⌘J

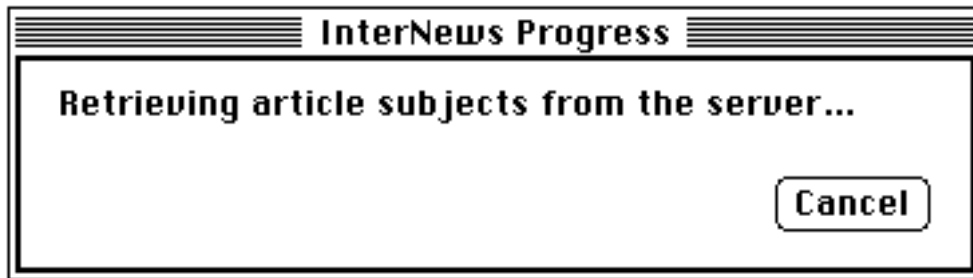
Convert Article (Not13)

Cancel Article...

**Set Reading Fonts...**

### ...Cancel a Long-running Operation

Hold down the **Command** key (⌘) and type a period, or click on the **Cancel** or **Stop** buttons in the progress alert.



### ...Save an Article as Text

You can save an article as a text file, or append an article to an existing text file. If only one article is in a topic, you can do either of these actions without seeing the article. Simply select the topic and choose the appropriate command from the **File** menu. If more than one article is in a topic, *InterNews* does not know which one to save. So you must open the topic first by double-clicking on the topic. Then select the article of interest in the bottom pane by clicking on it. Then you can choose the appropriate command from the **File** menu.

If an article has more than 32,000 characters, it cannot be fully displayed or printed. It will all be saved or appended to a file, however.

### ...Download Binary Files from Articles

Select the topic that includes the first part of the binary sequence (there are usually more than one). If more than one article is in the topic, you have to open it by double-clicking on it and selecting the article in the bottom pane. The bottom pane will probably have just one article in it. You may get an alert that says that the text is larger than 32K.

Choose **Save Article As Text...** from the **File** menu and save it. Do the same for the rest of the topics/articles, appending them to the same text file. Be careful to append them in order. The subject of the article (and topic) usually tells you the sequence number. **They are not always presented in order!**

When all are in the text file, switch to the Finder and open that text file with the appropriate program to convert it. For “binhexed” files, use a program that does binhex decoding, such as *StuffIt!*™. For images, use a program such as *UULite* to decode to PICT or GIF files.

### **...Change the Creator Type of Saved Articles**

Articles can be saved as text files. You can specify the program that will be launched to view those files. The default is 'MSWD,' which stands for *Microsoft® Word*. To change the default, edit '**STR**' resource id 2000 in *InterNews* using *ResEdit™* or an equivalent program. Or close your subscription file and choose **Configure for Your Site...** from the **Edit** menu. Be careful about changing any other parameters in this dialog.

### **...Report Bugs or Make Suggestions about Future Versions of InterNews**

Send electronic mail to **internews@dartmouth.edu**.

## Posting Articles

Posting is the term used for composing articles and sending them to a newsgroup. *InterNews* provides a Compose window for you to enter the text of your article, and it provides the commands to post the article. An article can be an original contribution to the newsgroup or it can be a “follow-up,” or response, to an existing article.

*InterNews* articles are part of a large information network called the InterNet that connects many educational, research, and commercial institutions around the world. Your contributions may find their way to all of those places—with your name on them.

Posting is an important action and should not be taken lightly. Every poster should be aware of a number of issues before posting an article. A few are mentioned here. You should also read the articles in the newsgroups called **newsgroups news.announce.newusers** and **news.newusers.questions**.

## Netiquette

Many conventions and general rules of conduct regarding article posting have evolved over many years of Usenet activity. You will be more successful in getting your message across if you follow these conventions and rules; to find out what they are, read the articles in **newsgroup news.announce.newusers**. As a general guideline, do not post an article until you know what a “flame” is and what the symbols :-) mean.

## Where Does an Article Go?

If an article is posted to a newsgroup that starts with the prefix that is the name of your site (for example, dartmouth.), then the article will be visible to all *InterNews* and Usenet users at your site. If the newsgroup name does not start with the name of your site, the article will be visible to all Usenet users around the world. Each participating institution pays for the Usenet service, so your message will represent a cost to each of them. Your name and electronic mail address will be on every article that you post. If the article offends someone or if it contains personal information, you may receive some unexpected mail in return. Think twice before posting frivolous articles.

## Take a Test Drive First

If you want to try posting your article just to see how it works, you can post it first to the test group at your site. Ask your system administrator for the name of your test group. It is likely



to be the name of your site followed by “.test” (for example, dartmouth.test). No one will care what your article says if it is posted to that group.

### **Moderated Newsgroups**

Some newsgroups are “moderated,” meaning all articles that are submitted to the newsgroup are screened by one person who is designated to be the moderator. This means that you cannot post directly to the newsgroup. *InterNews* does not tell you which groups are moderated, but articles in such groups are usually marked near the top or bottom of the text as being moderated. *InterNews* allows you to post to any newsgroup. If you do post to a moderated newsgroup, your article will actually be mailed to the moderator. If your article is frivolous, you may incur the wrath of the moderator directly. More likely, your article will be ignored.

### **Canceling Articles**

You can cancel an article that you posted previously. When you do this, the message is removed from all systems to which it had been distributed. This can cause some confusion because some readers may see the article before you cancel it. The sooner you cancel an article, the less confusion there will be.

### **Timing of Articles**

When you post an article to a newsgroup that you are currently reading, your article will not appear immediately in the Reading window. Similarly, when you cancel an article, it will still be visible in the Reading window. To see your article, choose the **Refresh All Newsgroups** command from the **Reading** menu. You can also set a preference that will refresh newsgroups automatically every time you post an article. Refreshing only works if your news host computer has made new articles available since you posted. Some host machines make new articles available as soon as they are posted. Others hold new articles for a specified time (for example, 30 minutes or 1 hour) before showing them.

### **What If My Article Never Appears?**

If you post an article and it never shows up in the newsgroup(s) to which you posted it, consider these facts about the Usenet News system: If you post to a moderated group, the article gets mailed to a person who moderates the group. If the moderator chooses not to post your article, it will never show up. If you post an article to a number of groups and any of them is moderated, the article will get mailed to the moderator of the first moderated group in the list. It will not get posted to the other groups unless that moderator decides to post it for you. This may seem strange, but it is the way that Usenet News works. Since

*InterNews* does not tell you which groups are moderated, you can be surprised in this manner when posting to multiple groups.

To get around this problem, post two copies of an article: one to the moderated group and one to the other groups. There is a good chance that the moderator will not post an article that has already been posted. If you are not sure if the group you are posting to is moderated, save your composition while you compose it so that you have a copy in case you want to post it to another group.

### How to Post an Original Article

Choose **New Composition** from the **Compose** menu. A new Compose window will appear (see below). The top pane of this window has five controls. The first four are a set of buttons that let you choose between an original article, a follow-up, an original mail message, or a mail reply. If you had selected an article in a Reading window, the follow-up article button will be selected. Otherwise, the original article button will be selected and you cannot change it. The other control is the **Post Article** button. Click on this when you are ready to send the article. This button is disabled until you actually type something in the lower pane of the Compose window.

The screenshot shows a window titled "Compose-2". At the top, there are four radio buttons: "Original Article" (selected), "Original Mail", "Follow-up Article", and "Mail Reply". To the right of these is a button labeled "Post Article" with a keyboard shortcut symbol (⌘M). Below the radio buttons are two text input fields: "Newsgroups:" with the value "mySite.test" and "Subject:" with the value "This is a test posting". Below these fields is a large text area containing the text: "This is the first posting that I have tried. It is going to my local test group so that no one will care what it says." At the bottom of the window, there is a status bar that says "Modified Mon, Aug 16, 1993 12:48 PM". On the right side of the window, there are several small icons: a home icon, a list icon, a refresh icon, and a close icon.

The middle pane of the Compose window is called the "header." It contains fields where you can enter the name of the newsgroup to which your article will be posted and the subject of

the article. If a Reader window was open with a newsgroup selected, the Compose window header pane will have the name of that newsgroup in the **Newsgroups** field. You can change the group by editing this name. You can post an article to more than one newsgroup by typing more newsgroup names in the box, separating them with commas. You can specify the subject of the article by typing it in the **Subject** field. The middle pane of a Composing window can be scrolled or resized to gain access to other, less frequently used header fields.

If you have entered a “signature” in the Personal Preferences dialog (available from the **Edit** menu), this signature will appear at the bottom of the composing pane. A signature is used to identify you, your mail address, your organization, and anything else that you would like to appear on all of your postings.

Type the content of your article in the lower pane of the Compose window.

Press the **Post Article** button or type **Command-M** (**⌘-M**). The first time that you post an article after opening your subscription file, you will be asked for your name and password. From the **Edit** menu, you can set a preference that tells *InterNews* to remember your password instead of asking for it.

### **How to Follow Up an Article**

Select the article to which you want to respond in a Reader window.

Select any text to which you want to refer in your follow-up article. This text will be copied to the Compose window automatically, marked with a leading ‘>’ and a space, and preceded by an attribution that identifies the poster and id of the message to which you are responding.

Choose **New Composition** from the **Compose** menu. A new Compose window will appear that is formatted for your follow-up article. The newsgroup name will be filled in. The subject line will be filled in, possibly with the prefix “Re:”. If you selected text in the article, lines will appear in the bottom pane describing the message id and poster of the article, and the selected text will appear with a prefix of ‘>’ and a space before each line.

If you have entered a “signature” in the Personal Preferences dialog (available from the **Edit** menu), this signature will appear at the bottom of the composing pane. A signature is used to identify you, your mail address, your organization, and anything else that you would like to appear on all of your postings.

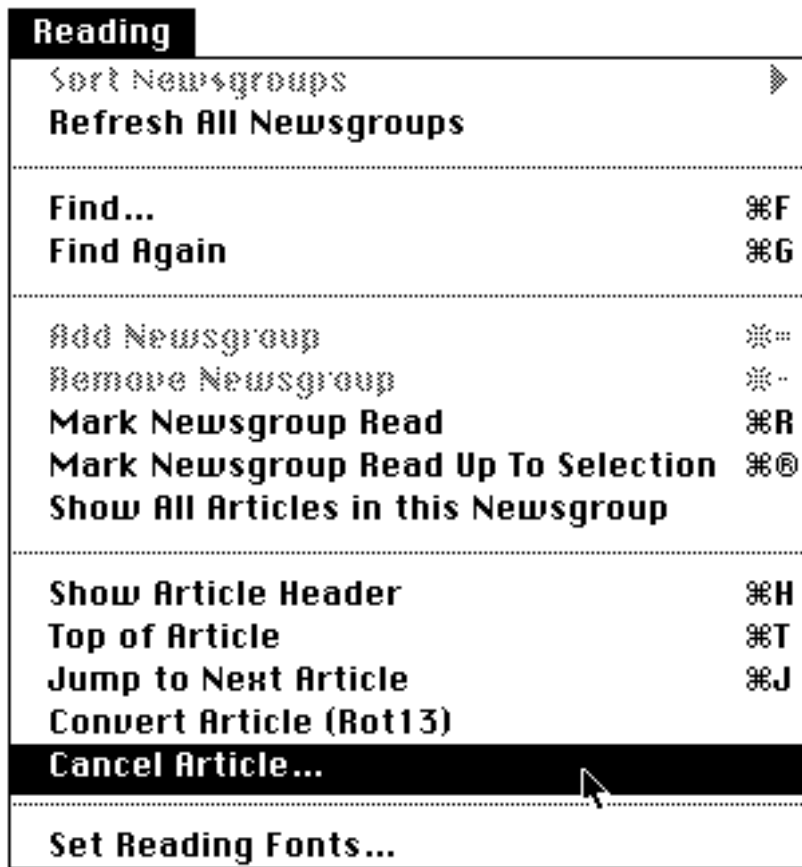
Type your response below the indented text. Send it as you would an original article.

You can change a follow-up article to an original article by clicking the **Radio** button in the top pane. The subject line will change when you do this.

### How to Cancel an Article

Find the article that you want to cancel and select it. You can only cancel articles that you yourself posted. In addition, if you posted it from a different news reading program, you cannot cancel it from *InterNews*.

Choose **Cancel Article...** from the **Reading** menu. The article will be canceled and a copy of it will appear in a new Compose window. If you want to change the article and repost it, make the changes and post it as you would any other article.



If the article you are canceling is a follow-up, the copy will also be a follow-up. You can change this if you want to repost it as an original article.

## Personalizing Your Article

### *Quoted Text*

A follow-up article often includes text that is quoted from the original article. This text is marked with a ‘>’ and a space to set it off from the text of your article. (Other news posting programs use other conventions for quoted text.) If you break the quoted text up in any way, try to maintain this marking.

Compose-5

☐ Original Article

☒ Follow-up Article

☐ Original Mail

☐ Mail Reply

Post Article ⌘M

Newsgroups: mySite.Test

Subject: Re: This is a test posting

In article <xyz\_74538@mysite.edu>  
ld2382@myself.mySite.edu (Test User) writes:

> This is the first posting that I have tried. It is going to my local test  
> group so that no one will care what it says.  
|  
And I would like to add that it worked just fine.  
  
> And then I tried to send another one and it worked well, too. It just took  
> a few minutes to get there. I had hoped it would be faster.  
  
That is a function of the newshost settings and current local traffic.

Modified Mon, Aug 16, 1993 12:57 PM

### Signature

Every article that you post should have a couple of lines at the bottom for your signature—a description of who and where you are. Look at some other articles for ideas. Read **news.announce.newusers** for some guidelines. You can store your signature by typing it in the box provided in the Personal Preferences dialog (available from the **Edit** menu).

**Preference Category:** **Personal**



**Posting Name:** NewsAddict

**E-Mail Address:** olaf.macintosh@statecollege.edu

**Organization:** State College

**Signature:**

-----  
Opinions expressed herein are my own.  
Olaf Macintosh, Network News Expert  
State College, Springfield, PD

**Help**  
Click a preference to find out more about it.

**Cancel** **OK**

### *Optional Headers*

The middle pane of the Compose window has more fields for optional header information. You can see these by scrolling the pane or resizing it with the split bar. You do not need to fill in any of these. They are provided for full Usenet compatibility.

**Compose-1**

☒ **Original Article** ☐ Follow-up Article **Post Article ⌘M**

Newsgroups: mySite.Test

Subject: This is a test

optional information:

Keywords:

Summary:

Reply-To:

Followup-To:

Organization: Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH

Distribution:

This is the text of the test message.

Modified Thu, Aug 19, 1993 9:23 AM

The **Keywords** and **Summary** fields are used by some news readers as search keys and are used by readers to judge whether or not an article is of interest. *InterNews* does not display these fields with an article directly; they are included in the pop-up header for an article.

The **Reply-To** field is a place to put your electronic mailing address if it is different than the address that *InterNews* generates. When you post an article, *InterNews* uses the address that you typed in the authentication dialog.

The **Followup-To** field is used to redirect a topic. If you want responses to your article to go to another newsgroup, or to several newsgroups, put the names of those newsgroups in this field. **Note:** If you put the word “poster” in this field, people responding to your article will be asked to reply directly by mail.



The **Organization** field identifies the place where you work or study. You can change it or make it more specific. You can also put this information in the signature of your articles.

### **Saving Compositions**

You can save the contents of a Compose window at any time before or after it is sent. If you save it before sending, the file that you save it in will be updated when you send it so that it contains the final version. If you do not save it before closing the window or quitting the program, *InterNews* will ask you if you want to save it. After sending it, *InterNews* will ask you if you want to save it. You can use this feature to keep a simple log of sent articles and mail messages by saving them all in a folder. Some composing preferences can be set to modify this behavior.

## Mailing Messages

**Note:** If your copy of *InterNews* does not authenticate your user name, then the following mailing features are not available. To see if it does, check the **About InterNews...** item of the **Apple** menu. If the words (No Authentication) appear below the version number, you cannot mail from *InterNews*.

You can communicate with other people on the Internet using a simple electronic mail interface in *InterNews*. This is not intended to be a full-featured electronic mail program, but gives you the basic means of sending a message in response to an article or for any other reason.

### How to Mail a Message

Choose **New Composition** from the **Compose** menu. The window that opens will default to an article Compose window marked as an original article or a follow-up, depending on whether or not an article was selected in a Reading window. To send mail instead of posting an article, click on the appropriate radio button at the top left of the window. If you had previously selected an article in a Reading window, you will be able to choose **Mail Reply**. (Otherwise, you can choose only **Original Mail**.) A mail reply will automatically be addressed to the sender of the selected article.

Compose-8

☐ Original Article

☐ Follow up Article

☒ Original Mail

☐ Mail Reply

Mail Message

⌘M

To: someoneElse@mySite.edu

Subject: This is a mail message from InterNews

InterNews can send mail but not receive it.

Modified Mon, Aug 16, 1993 1:02 PM

Type your message in the bottom pane of the Compose window. You can quote text from an article to which you want to reply just as you can with articles. You can use the address “me” to mail something to yourself. If you are addressing multiple recipients, separate their names with commas. Use the optional mail header fields in the upper scrolling pane if you need to; these include keywords, carbon copy, blind carbon copy, and a reply-to field if you want the recipients to reply to a different address than the one generated by *InterNews*.

Click on the **Mail Message** button to send the message. You will be asked for your name and password if you have not been asked already. Recipient addresses will be verified. If all is OK, the message will be sent.

## Helpful Hints

Here are some hints and shortcuts that you might find useful. They are presented in no particular order.

### Starting the Program

You can get a quicker start if you double-click on your subscription file rather than on *InterNews* itself; it will not ask you to find the subscription file. Under System 7, you can put an alias to your subscription file in the Apple Menu Items folder of the System Folder. This will give you access to *InterNews* from the **Apple** menu. You can also put an alias in the Startup Items folder if you want *InterNews* to open when you start your computer.

If your subscription file appears to be taking longer and longer to open each day, there are a couple of things you can do to help:

- Make sure that you do not have a lot of newsgroups in the New Newsgroups subscription (like more than 50). See the section “New Newsgroups” below.
- Arrange your subscriptions so that no one subscription has a lot of newsgroups in it. *InterNews* gets article information about each newsgroup when a Reading window is opened. The more newsgroups in the subscription, the longer it will take to open. If you have a preference set to open a subscription automatically at startup, the process will be that much slower if there are a lot of newsgroups in that subscription.
- Do a **Tune Up** using the command of that name in the **Subscriptions** menu. It will tidy up your subscription file to make it more efficient.

### Keyboard Shortcuts

*InterNews* offers a number of keys for quickly performing common commands:

#### *Newsgroup Selection Shortcuts*

- **Right-arrow** selects the next newsgroup.
- **Left-arrow** selects the previous newsgroup.

- **Return** or **Enter** shows the selected newsgroup.

#### *Topic Selection Shortcuts*

- **Down-arrow** selects the next topic; **Option** marks the old one as read.
- **Up-arrow** selects the previous topic; **Option** marks the old one as read.
- **Return** or **Enter** shows the selected topic.
- **Command-1** selects and shows the next topic; **Option** marks the old one as read.

#### *Article Scrolling Shortcuts*

- **Space** scrolls the bottom pane by one page (it's useful for those using computers without the Apple Extended Keyboard).

The following keys are present on the Apple Extended Keyboard:

- **Page-down** scrolls down a page.
- **Page-up** scrolls up a page.
- **Home** scrolls to the beginning of the first article in the topic.
- **End** scrolls to the end of the last article in the topic.

#### **“Out of Memory” Problems**

If you open several Reading windows, or open a newsgroup or topic with many articles, *InterNews* may complain of having insufficient memory. You may see an alert that says “Memory space is low. Some commands may be disabled.” or another that says that something could not happen because “there is not enough memory.” Mouse clicks in various places may not produce any results and some menu items may be gray.

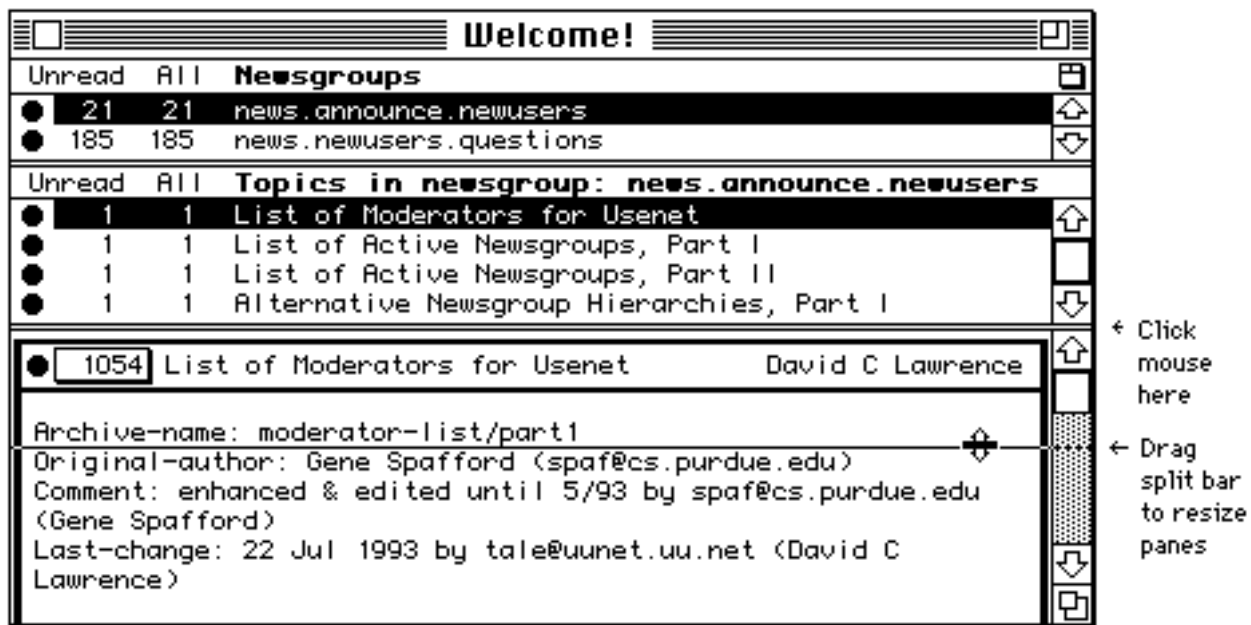
You can alleviate the immediate problem by closing some windows and/or opening a smaller topic or newsgroup. A longer term solution is to give *InterNews* a larger memory partition in the Finder. To do this:

- Quit *InterNews*.

- In the Finder, select the **InterNews** icon in it's folder window.
- Choose **Get Info...** in the **File** menu to open the application Info window.
- Select the input box closest to the bottom of the window. This may be labeled "preferred size" or something similar, depending on the version of the System you are running.
- Type 1000 to give *InterNews* a full megabyte of memory. This is enough for most cases. You can give it more if you have it available.
- Close the Info window. *InterNews* will have more memory from then on.

## Windows

Reading and Composing windows can be adjusted to make your work easier. Use the split bars—the horizontal double lines—to change the relative sizes of the panes in a window. Just click on one and drag up or down until you have a size that seems right to you. *InterNews* will remember your changes next time.



You can change the font and size of the bottom pane of all Reading and Composing windows. Choose the **Preferences** item from the **Edit** menu.

## Reading

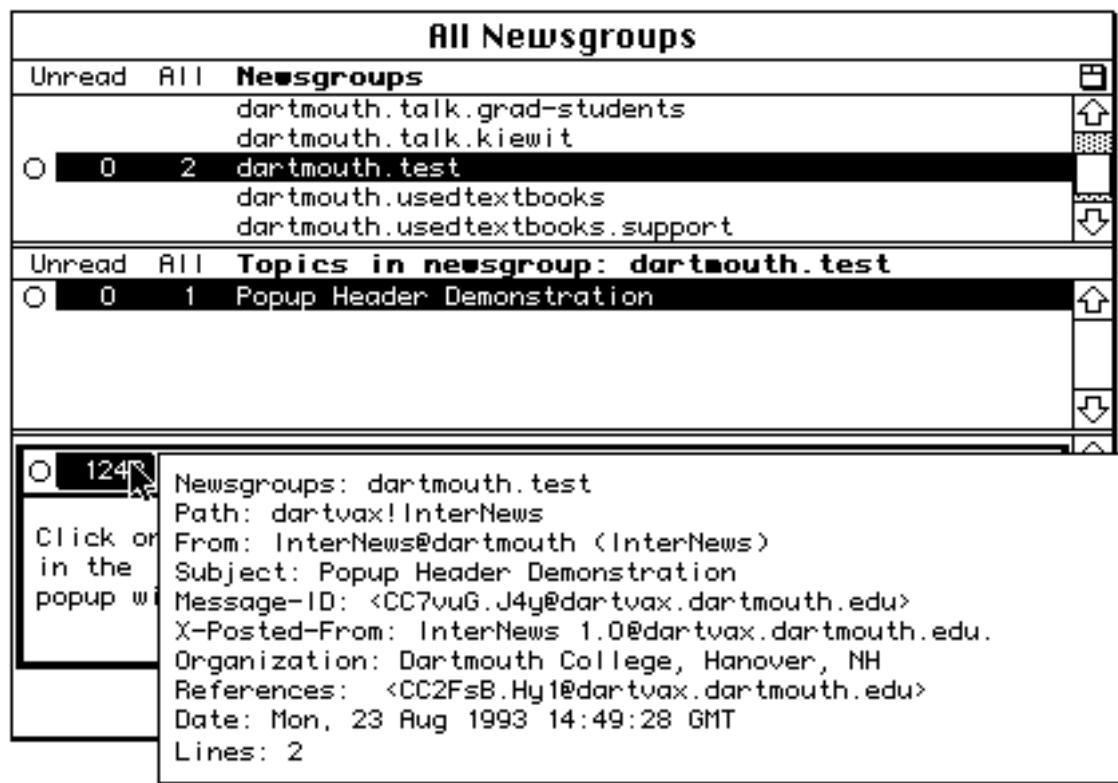
A subscription with many newsgroups takes longer to open than a subscription with fewer newsgroups. This is because *InterNews* gets information about each newsgroup from the news server when you open a window. Use subscriptions to divide your newsgroups into smaller subject groups rather than putting them all into one subscription.

If a newsgroup has many unread articles, it will take longer to show the topics when you open it. If you want to see just a few articles at a time, hold down the **Option** key when you open a newsgroup. *InterNews* will respond by getting just 50 articles from the news server. Mark those read and select again with the **Option** key held down to see the next 50.

While reading one subscription, you can open another subscription using the **Windows** menu. You don't have to click all the way back to the Subscription File window.

If an article looks unintelligible, it may be encoded. If it is a program, it might be encoded using "binhex." If it is an image, it may be encoded using "uuencode." If it is a joke, it might be encoded using "Rot13." Check the title or opening lines for clues. The first two cases cannot be decoded within *InterNews*. You will have to save the article as text and run the resulting file through a decoding program. Rot13 can be decoded using the **Convert Article (Rot13)** command from the **Reading** menu.

Click on the pop-up rectangle at the top of an article to see its full header. Hold the mouse down and a window will appear; it will tell you, among other things, when the article was posted.



## Posting

You can save your password so that *InterNews* will not ask you for it the first time you post. See **Preferences** from the **Edit** menu.

Use the “signature” preference to describe yourself. The signature is automatically appended to all of the articles that you post. You can edit the signature in a Compose window before posting, if you want to.



**Compose-9**

☒ **Original Article**    ☐ **Original Mail**  
☐ **Follow-up Article**    ☐ **Mail Reply**

**Post Article** ⌘M

Newsgroups:

Subject:

-----  
Test User  
I am an electronic just a crash test dummy. I have no opinions.  
email: mySelf@mySite.edu

Created Mon, Aug 16, 1993 1:07 PM

To quote the text of an article in your response to it, select that text before creating a new composition. The text will be automatically copied to a new Compose window. To quote more text after that, copy the text from the article, paste it into the Compose window. Then select what you copied and apply the **Quote Selected Text** command from the **Reading** menu.

Posting can take a long time, depending on how busy the news host machine is. You cannot do anything else in this version of *InterNews* while the article is being sent. You can, however, switch to another application at that time.

If you post an article and then realize that you made a mistake, you can cancel the article. First, select the article as it appears in its newsgroup. Then choose the **Cancel Article...** command from the **Reading** menu. Some people may have seen the article before it was canceled if a long time elapses between posting and canceling. If the article was posted to several groups, it will be removed from all.

You can save an article while you are composing it and after it is posted. Use **Command-S** to save it while you work. You do not have to post it before quitting the program. You can open it again at a later date, change it, and then post it. Once it is posted, the final version will be saved. Create a folder to make saved compositions easier to find. By default, *InterNews* will save them in the same folder where the subscription file resides.

Some optional header fields for an article are “hiding” in the top pane of a Compose window. Use the scroll bar or split bar to get to them.

## New Newsgroups

New newsgroups will appear in the New Newsgroups subscription. You can delete that subscription at any time. A new one will be made the next time new newsgroups appear. To keep track of what is really new, look at the groups in the New Newsgroups subscription. If any are of interest to you, drag them into one of your own subscriptions. Then delete the New Newsgroups subscription. The next time that subscription appears, it will have only the groups that are new since you last looked at it.

## Aligning Subscription Icons

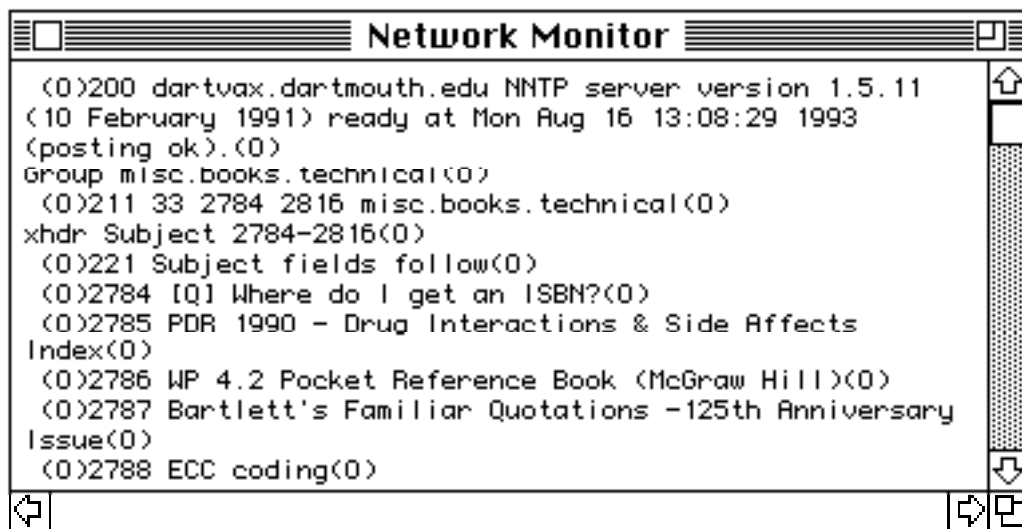
You can tidy up the Subscriptions window by selecting icons and applying the **Clean Up Icon(s)** command from the **Subscription** menu. This will align the icons to a fixed, invisible grid. You can also do this by dragging an icon or group of selected icons while holding the **Option** key down.

## Undoable Operations

Several menu items are described in this manual as “undoable.” You may find that the **Undo** command from the **Edit** menu is not always enabled when you expect it to be. One cause of this situation is that undoable operations are “committed” (made no longer undoable) when you save the subscription file, do a tune up, or export a .newsrsrc file. If you have a preference set to automatically save your subscription file, seemingly unrelated operations will be committed when you are not expecting it.

## Network Monitor Window

If you are seeing errors referring to the news host, mail host, NNTP, SMTP, or authentication, you can monitor the communications between *InterNews* and any of the hosts using a special window. To open the window, bring the Subscription File window to the front and then press **Option-Shift-Z**. A window will appear entitled “Network Monitor.” The communications will be echoed in this window. You can copy from the window and print it as needed. The program is slower when this window is open, so you do not want to have it open all the time.



### Automatic Subscriptions

*InterNews* has a feature for defining automatic subscriptions that contain all newsgroups whose names match a certain pattern. For example, a subscription may be defined to contain any newsgroups with the pattern “mac” in it. All existing newsgroups and any new ones created with the characters “mac” in their names will appear in the subscription.

You can have any number of these subscriptions. You should be aware of these restrictions, however:

- You cannot delete one or edit the name of one in the Subscription window.

- You cannot add other newsgroups to them.

- Because they are in *InterNews* and not in your subscription file, they will not appear in copies of later versions of *InterNews*. You will have to create them again, or copy them from the old version into the new one.

This feature has no user interface yet, but you can access it using a resource editing program:

- Changes must be made to *InterNews* itself, not to the subscription file.
- Open *InterNews* with a resource editor such as Apple Computer’s *ResEdit* software. Create a new resource of type ‘psub.’
- A window will appear prompting you for three parameters:
  - Name of the subscription: Put the name here.

- Icon id: Enter 5000.

- Pattern: Enter a pattern following this format:

"\*" -> get all newsgroups

"\*text" -> get all newsgroups that end with text

"\*text\*" or "text" -> get all newsgroups that contain text anywhere in the name

"text\*" -> get all newsgroups that start with text

"\*text\*(exclude1,exclude2)" -> get all articles with text in the name excluding those with either exclude1 or exclude2 in the name, for example, "\*comp\*(mail,msdos)"

## Anonymous FTP

*InterNews* gives you easy access to files and remote host file directories available over the Internet using the FTP protocol. It does this by using an external FTP client program such as *Fetch 2.1.1* or *Anarchie 1.2*, or later. The feature is available by choosing **FTP Access** from the **Windows** menu.

There are four ways to use this feature:

1. You can open the **FTP Access** window at any time. Fill in the name of the file that you want to fetch or the directory that you want to access. Make sure to provide the entire path name, such as “/pub/mac/sample.” Then fill in the name of the FTP host, such as “ftp.dartmouth.edu.”
2. You can select the text of an article or a Compose window that includes a URL (Uniform Resource Locator) description of a file available over FTP, then press **Command-U** or choose **FTP Access** from the **Windows** menu. The general form of this kind of description is:

<ftp://host/filename>

An example is:

<ftp://ftp.dartmouth.edu/pub/mac/InterNews\_Dev/URL\_Test.hqx>

The angle brackets are optional but recommended when specifying a URL in typed text.

If the text you select is in this form, *InterNews* will fill in the file and host boxes of the **FTP Access** window for you. If the text is not in this form, all of the text will be inserted in the file box and you can edit it from there. You can therefore select the specification of a file or a host that is in some other format and rearrange it once the **FTP Access** window is opened.

3. You can Option-click anywhere on a URL found in an article, Help window, or Compose window. The result will be the same as #2 above.
4. You can Option-Command-click anywhere on a URL found in an article, Help window, or Compose window. The helper application will be launched without any of the following steps. Do this if you are pretty sure that the URL is correctly formed.

Once the **FTP Access** window is presented, take these steps:

1. Choose the FTP client software from the pop-up menu. If you have a subscription file open, your choice will be remembered for next time.

2. You can click on the **Launch** button. This will launch the FTP client with a pointer to the file or directory to be accessed. (This feature is only available under System 7 or later.)

- or -

3. You can click on the **Save Bookmark** button to create a bookmark file on your disk. This file can be double-clicked at a later time to launch the FTP client program and get the file.

You can create bookmark files that point to directories as well as to individual files. For example, you can create a bookmark to the directory where the latest test release of *InterNews* is available by Option-clicking on this text in the Help window:

<ftp://ftp.dartmouth.edu/pub/mac/InterNews\_Dev/World>

You can then double-click that bookmark file at any time to see what is currently available in that directory.

There is only one FTP Access window in *InterNews*, so clicking on a second URL will result in the replacement of the first URL information in the window.

# Configuring InterNews for Your Site

*InterNews* can be customized for a particular site. If you intend to distribute *InterNews* to other people at your site, you can first set a few default parameter values that will make it easier for your users. If you are the only *InterNews* user at your site, you will have to set these parameters for yourself. Try the defaults first if you do not know the proper values; they may work just fine.

A fresh copy of *InterNews* obtained from Dartmouth College will not be configured for your site. The first time it is run, a configuration dialog will appear. You can set the default parameter values at this time. You can change them at a later time using the **Configure for Your Site...** command from the **Edit** menu. This menu item is enabled when there is no subscription file open. Changes in these parameters are applied to *InterNews* itself rather than to a subscription file. All copies that you make of the configured original will have those changes.

**Configure InterNews for Your Site**

Authentication:

News Host:

Mail Host:

Authentication Host:

Organization:

Local Newsgroup Prefix:

Text File Creator:

**Help** (Click on an item to find out more about it.)  
Use this screen to customize this copy of InterNews for your site. You can set these default values directly or copy them from a previous version of InterNews or an existing subscription file. Do this before distributing the program to other users.

## About Authentication

*InterNews* prefers that users be authenticated before posting an article and *requires* that users be authenticated before sending a mail reply. This is a security feature to ensure that all mail sent from the program is identified with a username that is recognized by some host at the site. Posting, since it is not directed to individuals, is considered to be less serious in nature and therefore does not need such strict accountability.

To achieve some form of authentication, each copy of *InterNews* can be configured to check a name and password on some sort of local host system. It always uses NNTP for news and SMTP for mail, but it may use any of a number of services to authenticate a username with a password. The current list of possible authentication methods is described below. Others will be added to the list in the future as needed.

The best way to determine which authentication method makes sense for you or your site, consider what program on what sort of machine you and/or your site population uses to send electronic mail. Here is a quick reference guide:

- If your news host uses the INN software and it requires authentication, use the INN choice. It has nothing to do with mail directly.
- If you use Pegasus for mail, also try POP. We do not have a direct Pegasus method yet.
- If you use IMAP to log into mail, use IMAP.
- If you use UNIX mail, use the UNIX choice.
- If you use VAX Mail, use the VMS choice or the VMS-NC choice.
- If you use CMS or another host that is not represented by this list, try the FTP choice.
- If you use Microsoft Mail, QuickMail, or LeeMail, we do not have a choice for that yet.

- **Authentication Method:** This is a pop-up menu that presents a list of choices for how users will be authenticated. *InterNews* will not allow a user to post articles or send electronic mail without being authenticated by one of these methods. They are:

- **None:** It does not really authenticate; it simply asks for a user name to display on articles and an e-mail address for responses returned by mail. It also asks for a password that the user can make up. This password identifies articles so that other users cannot cancel them. If you use this method, you *will not be able to send electronic mail with InterNews*, but you will be able to post articles.

- **POP:** It requires a user name and password that will be accepted by a POP Mail server specified in the Authentication Host parameter described below. This option works for some sites using Kerberos authentication. If you are using *Eudora* for electronic mail, this is the correct choice. If you are using *Pegasus* for electronic mail and your site has the *Mercury* POP software installed, this is also the right choice.



- **IMAP:** It requires a user name and password that will be accepted by an IMAP server specified in the Authentication Host parameter described below.

- **DND:** It requires a user name and password that will be accepted by a DND (Dartmouth Name Directory) server specified in the Authentication Host parameter described below. This choice is useful only if your site is running the *BlitzMail*® electronic mail system, also available from Dartmouth College.

- **INN:** It requires a user name and password that will be accepted by the INN news software. Use this if your site is running INN with the AuthInfo switch turned on. Check with your new administrator to find out if this is the case. The user name and password are likely to be the same as those you use for electronic mail, but they may be different.

- **VMS:** This is the correct choice if you use VAX Mail for electronic mail services. This choice requires that a user enter their VMS login name and password before posting or mailing from *InterNews*.

- **VMS-NC:** this is an optional choice if you use Vax Mail for electronic mail services. It works the same as the VMS choice except that the "Shell prompt" is not needed. This method assumes that your VMS system supports the /NOCOMMAND option at login time, an option that causes the shell prompt to default to \$.

- **UNIX:** This is the correct choice if you use UNIX Mail for electronic mail services. This choice requires that a user enter their UNIX login name and password before posting or mailing from *InterNews*. When this authentication method is chosen from the pop-up menu, an additional field appears in the dialog labeled "Shell Prompt." *InterNews* needs to know the exact prompt that the UNIX mail host system uses on its command line. The default is "% " (note the trailing space). Some systems use their domain name followed by an angle bracket such as "mailhost.dartmouth.edu> ". If the prompt varies, enter some part of it that is always present. If each user has a customized prompt, retain the default and instruct users to enter their custom prompt in the box provided in the **Set Host Addresses...** dialog after they create or open an existing subscription file.

- **FTP:** This choice can be used in some cases to authenticate a user name and password using any host that supports an FTP service. This may include UNIX, VMS, and CMS machines, as well as others. Macintosh FTP servers may not be used. System administrators may not like it if you use this option at your site because it will generate login events in the FTP log and will skew the statistics derived from that log.

If your site uses an authentication method that does not appear on this list, send a message to **internews@dartmouth.edu** with information about it. We will see if we can add it to the list.

- **News Host:** This is the name or IP address of the host computer at your site that manages the Usenet News (that is, it is running NNTP). The default name is "news host," which

will work for most sites. If your NNTP service does not use the standard port number, enter the port number after the host name with a space between them.

- **Mail Host:** This is the name or IP address of the host computer at your site that manages electronic mail (that is, it is running SMTP). The default name is “mailhost,” which will work for most sites. This item will be disabled if the “None” authentication method is chosen. If your SMTP service does not use the standard port number, enter the port number after the host name with a space between them.
- **Authentication Host:** This is the name or IP address of the host computer at your site that manages authentication (that is, it is running POP Mail, IMAP, etc.). The default name is “mailhost,” which will work for many sites. This item will be disabled if the “None” authentication method is chosen.
- **Shell Prompt:** This box will appear if you are using the UNIX authentication method. Enter the most common Shell prompt for the authentication host. If that prompt varies, enter any part of it that may remain constant for most users. *InterNews* needs a string that it will see on the host to indicate a successful login.
- **Organization:** This is the name of your site: college, university, company, etc. It will appear in article headers.
- **Local Newsgroup Prefix:** If your site has local newsgroups, enter their hierarchy prefix here. For example, at Dartmouth College we have a number of local groups that start with the prefix “dartmouth.” If you fill this in, *InterNews* will create an automatic subscription containing those groups. You might want to experiment with this before distributing the program.
- **Text File Creator:** *InterNews* lets you save articles as text files. This parameter lets you specify which program will be launched when one of those files is opened from the Finder. Enter the creator signature of the Macintosh word processor or text editor most widely used at your site.

### Locking the Configuration

If you are a site administrator and you have configured a copy of *InterNews* to distribute to other users at your site, you may want to “lock” the configuration so that users cannot change any of the settings. There are several optional steps available for locking the configuration. All of these require modifying *InterNews* using a resource editing tool such as *ResEdit*. Make these changes to a copy of *InterNews* before distributing it to others at your site.

1. You can decrease the number of items in the Authentication pop-up of the Configuration dialog by removing any of the ‘xval’ resources. For example, if you want to restrict users from choosing any authentication method except UNIX, remove all ‘xval’ resources except the one named “UNIX.”
2. You can restrict the users from accessing the Configuration dialog completely by removing the **Configure for Your Site...** item from the **Edit** menu resource.
3. Normally users can customize the news host, mailhost, authentication host and, if UNIX is the authentication method, the Shell prompt. The values set in the Configuration dialog are defaults stored in *InterNews* itself. Users can override the defaults using the **Set Host Addresses...** item from the **Edit** menu. If you want to restrict users from customizing those settings, remove that item from the **Edit** menu resource.

## Distributing the Program

Changes made in the **Configure for Your Site...** dialog are stored in *InterNews* itself. If you are going to configure the program and then distribute it to other people at your site, make sure that you do the configuration with a master copy and then distribute copies of that rather than the original.

If you are distributing *InterNews* for the first time, you can save your users some startup time by creating a basic subscription file and distributing that with the program. Also, if your site has more than 6,000 newsgroups, you should increase the memory allocation of *InterNews* to at least 1000KB. Otherwise, it will have trouble getting started.

# What InterNews Cannot Do

Like any program, *InterNews* cannot do everything that everyone would like it to do. Dartmouth would like you to know about some limitations up front. Some are inherent in the current state of the Usenet News host software programs and the NNTP implementation. Some are inherent in the fact that the news database lives on the host and it takes time to get the data to the Macintosh. Some are limitations that we would like to change in future versions, if we have a chance to produce one.

- *InterNews* does not distinguish moderated groups from unmoderated groups in any way. If it did, you would have some feedback when posting to a moderated group. We hope to fix this in a future version.
- *InterNews* has no provision for filtering out articles that you already know you do not want to see. Other news readers have something called a “Kill File” that you use to say things like “don’t show me any more articles about this topic or posted by this person.” We hope to add some similar provision.
- You can search only newsgroups and topic subjects. It would be nice to be able to search article headers and text, but it would be a time-consuming operation requiring moving much more data across the network just to scan it for the search target. We hope to add this ability someday, with warnings that it would be slow (the slowness is inherent in the NNTP server-Mac client architecture used by *InterNews*).
- Only the first 32K of articles is shown. To see or print all of a long article, you must save it as text and open it with another program. This is a Macintosh toolbox limitation. We hope to remove this limitation in the future.
- *InterNews* does not include provisions for encoding or decoding binary data in articles (for example, BinHex, UUEncode). It might someday.
- There is a delay after posting an article during which time the news server processes the article. *InterNews* has to wait for this to complete. In the future, we may allow you to do other things within the program simultaneously and notify you when the posting is completed.
- When you mark an article read, *InterNews* remembers the marking for the current newsgroup only. If the article is cross-posted to other newsgroups, it is not marked read in those other newsgroups, so you may see it again.
- Some features we hope to add in future versions (no promises):
  - Handling articles greater than 32K in length.

- Asynchronous communications with the news server.
- Encoding and decoding of binary data.
- Special subscriptions used to archive articles that you send and others that you want to save; these will be saved on your local disk.
- A way to mark articles of interest for keeping in a newsgroup as long as they are on the news server, even after you mark them as read.
- Customizing the article header display and topic display to show other header information, such as who posted the first article in a topic, how many lines are in an article, etc.
- Options to sort articles by something other than subjects.
- Searching of articles for text patterns.
- A user interface for the “automatic” subscriptions described under “Helpful Hints” previously in this document. Also, we plan to remove some of the restrictions on those automatic subscriptions.
- A means for saving your read article information on a host machine.

Send your requests for other features to **[internews@dartmouth.edu](mailto:internews@dartmouth.edu)**.

*BlitzMail* and *Fetch* are other network products available from Dartmouth College. If you are interested in these products, contact:

Software Sales  
Computing Services  
Dartmouth College  
6028 Kiewit Computation Center  
Hanover, NH 03755-3523  
Phone: 603-646-2643  
Fax: 603-646-28120